



DAC Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2024

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Meeting Logistics:

Jessica Bassan - **Excused**
Irene Borisov - **Excused**
Jenny Brown - **Present**
Brian Domokos - **Present**
Allison Fox - **Absent**
Julie Gooden - **Present**
Becky Krug - **Excused**
Lisa Loomer - **Present**
Katie Lynch - **Present**
Ashley Opfer - **Present**
Kelly Pointer - **Present**
Chester Shaw - **Present**
Jen Spykerman - **Present**
Kate Welsh - **Present**
Sammye Wheeler-Clouse - **Excused**

Quorum: Quorum is met (need a majority)

Matt Reynolds, Learning Services Officer - Present

Susan Meek, Board of Education Director - Present

Alison Rausch - Director, Parent, Community and Civic Engagement - Present

Dr. Deanne Kirby, Director of Educator Effectiveness - Present

Guest in attendance: 7 (this does not include DAC and DCSD staff and board members)

Came to Order at 6:31

Total Attendance 21

1. Meeting Logistics (Chester Shaw)
 - a. Roll Call/Confirm Quorum
 - b. A motion to approve 12/14/23 meeting minutes was made by Kate Walsh and seconded by Lisa Loomer. Passed unanimously.
2. Chair Report (Chester Shaw)
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Bylaws Revision

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- i. Ashley said there's a meeting next Tuesday to address any changes in light of the answers Matt provided earlier through email.
 - c. Subcommittee Update from Communication
 - i. Kelly reported that the subcommittee met last week and had sent a draft of the survey to the DAC and had incorporated the feedback from Dir. Meek and requested more feedback. Based on potentially sending out a budget survey to SACs, the committee may recommend delaying the communication survey, (which is focused on finding how to best communicate with, serve the SACs, as well as making sure DAC has the most updated contact information for SACs.)
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** At the February meeting, the DAC must make a resolution on sending either a budget survey, a communication survey, both or neither to SACs.
 - ii. Katie Lynch suggested potentially adding a social media contact/option for the communication question. There was a discussion about if it was allowed. Matt responded that there was a social media account for DAC in the past but all parts have been taken over by the district communication team. There was a discussion about how to start doing this and how the district communication team can choose to publish or not publish anything submitted.
 - iii. Kate asked if there was a way to track (perhaps through SMORE or emails opened) if people were engaging with whatever communication was sent.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Kate will join the communication subcommittee and help discuss various ways to collect data on the effectiveness of the communication methods with SAC.
 - iv. Julie Gooden suggested clarity on if the SAC chair was supposed to answer the survey alone or with the SAC. Kelly showed where the directions indicated with the SAC and said it was clarified even more in the email sent to SACs.
 - d. Subcommittee Update from Membership
 - i. Yana Krotova, who had been approved by DAC, had to withdraw as she moved.
 - ii. DAC members received another small bio on Jeanette Simenson-Gurolnick, a new candidate and a reminder about Anne Chacon. Brian Domokos made a motion to approve Jeanette Simenson-Gurolnick, and Julie Gooden seconded. It passed unanimously.
 - iii. Lisa reminded people that anyone whose term is coming up towards the end of June 2024 will receive an email asking their interest in serving another year.
 - iv. Per request, the district has updated the membership page to include which area each member represents, a change that will be continued in upcoming agendas.
3. Board of Education Liaison Update (Dir. Meek)

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- a. She mentioned that the DC Youth Initiative is now accepting nominations.
 - b. She mentioned that the January 9th work session included State Accountability Task Force Update (slides [HERE](#)), Mill Levy Certification Update (presentation [HERE](#)), District Performance Framework Presentation (presentation [HERE](#)), Social Media Challenges Presentation ([HERE](#)), Growth and Decline Update (Presentation [HERE](#)), Superintendent Monitoring Report: End #1 - Academic Excellence (Presentation [HERE](#) and Monitoring Report [HERE](#)).
 - i. Due to the social media presentation, there will be a vote about potentially joining a class action suit against social media companies next BOE meeting.
 - c. There was a discussion about an RFP for a charter school in the Sterling Ranch and the Canyons area, which will be voted on in the future.
 - d. There were 9 people who applied for the board opening and three finalists were selected ([Sandra Brownrigg](#) [vote 6-0], [Timothy Moore](#) [vote 4-2], [Natalie Wong](#) [vote 4-2]).
 - e. On February 24, there may be another retreat with the new member.
 - f. Chester, Matt, and Dir. Meek met with Superintendent Kane about the CART process based on the December DAC meeting. Superintendent Kane proposed that the DAC CART member be allowed to ask questions in writing, there will be more clarity on the actions from each part, and that the DAC CART member and the outside consul will now be included in a verbal debrief after completing the written feedback.
 - g. Chester mentioned that in the future he will be soliciting feedback from DAC members about the meeting norms. He is open to a range of ways to gather the feedback and passed out a form to get feedback. There was some confusion on why this came up after the DAC CART part, but Chester answered that it was due to some questions about the norms being followed in the meeting with Superintendent Kane about the CART process. It was clarified that the feedback about norms not being followed came from non-DAC members. Matt said he liked the form for feedback. Another DAC member asked about the feedback loop for any problems and Lisa noted that this form seemed to be reactive. A DAC member said this seemed to be about making people seem less likely to disagree or question presentations or people. Another DAC member expressed frustration about how this came about and it not being addressed last semester. A DAC member asked about if the norms are also expected to be followed by the presenter.
4. Staff Update (Matthew Reynolds)
- a. Calendar Development (2025-2026, 2026-2027)
 - i. The committee is meeting now to make the calendars for the next two years. Matt gave some feedback on the process that starts in December. In March, DAC will receive the survey results from a February 2024 survey to stakeholders. He also went through the constraints that the calendar has.
 - b. Questions on [Growth and Decline](#) (link to DCSD website)

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- i. Matt gave a review of [this presentation that was given to the BOE](#) on January 9, 2024, indicating that this will be an ongoing conversation as some areas are actually growing. There should be another presentation to the board, potentially in February.
 - c. Questions on [Transportation](#) (link to DCSD website)
 - i. The transportation department is up 7 people and that is without the increased salary amount from the last bond/mill.
 - d. Questions on [Free/Reduced Lunch \(FRL\)](#)
 - i. There will be a bigger presentation next month but he summarized the article and how the district uses Medicaid to determine F/RL eligibility, which has increased about 5% (though that is in line with state numbers, meaning no major change in funding).
 - e. [Pupil Membership](#) has been released: Colorado, as a whole, is experiencing a decline in enrollment.
5. Budget Priorities (Matt Reynolds)
- a. Matt used many of the slides from Colleen's presentation last month and reminded members of their DAC responsibilities. He discussed what it meant to have "a reasonable" discussion with the SACs and gave what the DAC has done in the past.
 - b. He then took attendees through the brainstorming process: DAC members and audience members answered the question "Given DCSD's current financial landscape, what budget priorities should be considered for 2024-2025?" and put them on sticky notes. Then, in smaller groups of 3-5, they tried to find themes. Groups then shared out themes and Matt collected the sticky notes. At the next meeting, DAC members will then rank the themes and discuss how to involve SAC.
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Matt Reynolds will send out an email to DAC members with some reading to complete before the next DAC meeting. Also, at a future meeting, he will try to put these "themes" together so DAC members can rank their recommendations for priorities.
6. CITE Focus Group Updates (Dr. Deanne Kirby)
- a. She passed out the original document for the Recommendations for Principals and how they help educators identify, develop, and use assessment tools as well as the changed draft based on the recommendations from the last time she came.
 - b. One DAC member asked if there needs to be something added about aligning with Colorado Academic Standards. (Matt mentioned that some programs like CE don't align with those, so he suggested adding "as applicable.")
 - c. Another DAC member asked for clarity on the third bullet point's part about "use of two (or multiple) observational opportunities". Dr. Kirby took notes and asked if the DAC could trust her to make the changes and asked for approval. Ashley Opfer made a motion for the DAC to approve it with the changes as noted by Dr. Kirby and it was seconded by Jen Spykerman. It passed unanimously.

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- d. She then asked about DAC rubric vetting criteria that the DAC gave input on in November.
 - i. The rubric focuses on the concepts of Fairness (it is measurable, observable, and accurately captures performance as well as accounts for all users, regardless of experience and can be applied in multiple settings), Effectiveness (it is data-driven and research-based, measures educator improvement, provides next steps, and is focused on growth), Credibility (measures what is in the educator's control, the rubric is consistent, includes evidence-based language, and follows CDE guidelines), and Professional Quality (uses professional language, allows room for growth for all levels, and is aligned with best practices).
 - ii. She doesn't yet have the indicators for the 1-4 scale (does not meet expectations, partially meets expectations, meets expectations, exceeds expectations).
 - iii. The goal is that future rubric feedback will then be used to evaluate any future evaluation systems.
- 7. Accountability Update and UIP Discussion (Matt Reynolds)
 - a. Matt went over some State Board of Education Decisions like delaying the introductions of new metrics like On Track Growth or Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness Higher Bar Measures, meaning the format will look the same next year.
 - b. He updated the DAC on the UIP, including the second year of the Core Reading Program implementation (and the need for more writing) and the Professional Development provided for various groups. He also mentioned that there have been extra PD days for Special Education teachers. There has been an increase in i-Ready's reading and math scores.
- 8. Open Discussion (Chester Shaw)
 - a. Matt said that DAC members will be sent links about some board presentations and Colleen's previous presentation to help guide the discussion of budget priorities in light of the two difficulties of declining enrollment and 5B not passing. The goal is to have an approved list of recommendations by the end of March's meeting.
 - b. Julie asked, again, for a SPED presentation which hasn't happened since she's been a member and she still had questions. Matt invited her to share the questions with him, and she asked that people still wanted a presentation.
 - c. A DAC member asked about clarity on some of the legal issues around the CART process and there is no new information yet.
 - d. Chester invited DAC members, yet again, to provide feedback on the norms. A DAC member said that the feedback may change based on the meeting. A DAC member mentioned that it's worrisome that this seems to indicate a pattern from the cabinet and or some board members of dismissing feedback from the DAC that isn't desirable.
 - e. Dir. Meek thanked the DAC again and invited any more feedback.
- 9. Public Comment (Chester Shaw)

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- a. No one requested this.
- 10. Motion to adjourn by Katie Lynch and seconded by Lisa Loomer. It passed unanimously at 8:50 pm.